

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 26 APRIL 2018

### Present:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Cllr Liz Terry (Chair) | Lead Councillor for Neighbourhoods, RBC                         |
| Cllr Tony Page         | Deputy Leader and Police & Crime Panel representative, RBC      |
| Anthony Brain          | Community Safety Manager, RBC                                   |
| Carol Kelly            | Chair, Berkshire Bench  |
| Cath Marriott          | Policy Development, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner   |
| Chris Bloomfield       | Neighbourhood Initiatives Manager, RBC                          |
| Emma Burroughs         | Deputy Area Commander, Thames Valley Police                     |
| Geoff Davis            | Head of Operations, Thames Valley CRC                           |
| Giles Allchurch        | Youth Offending Service Manager, RBC                            |
| Rebecca Lindsay        |   |
| Sam Mortimore          | Community Safety Advisor, Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service |
| Sally Andersen         | Contract and Project Manager - Public Health, RBC               |
| Sarah Gee              | Head of Housing and Neighbourhoods, RBC                         |
| Vicky Rhodes           | Strategic Lead for Early Help, RBC                              |
| Simon Hill             | Committee Services, RBC   |

### Apologies:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Cllr Jan Gavin | Lead Councillor for Children's Services and Families, RBC |
| Kathryn Warner | Communities Manager, PACT                                 |
| Nicola Bell    | Manager, RAHAB  |
| Melanie Smith  | Head of Berkshire, National Probation Service             |

#### 1. MINUTES AND MATTER ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

#### 2. DRUG MISUSE STRATEGIC GROUP

Emma Burroughs submitted an update report from the Drug Misuse Strategic Group.

The report noted that the visible effects of Class A drug misuse had increased in Reading and were now one of the main crime concerns. The impact on residents, businesses and visitors was one of the main calls for action/service response across both the police and local authority, with concerns mainly in the areas of drug litter, injecting in public and open drug dealing. The report explained the background to formation of the Strategic Group which would focus on reducing the demand through treatment, intervention, and tackling supply through targeting dealers and runners.

The report summarised the initiatives being discussed by the Group and the actions being taken, which included the following:

- Introducing conditional cautioning in relation to a number of offences, whereby a caution was given on the proviso that the arrestee undertook some form of related rehabilitative activity;
- Training and equipping police officers to deliver anti-overdose drug naloxone;

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 26 APRIL 2018**

- Seizing more money from large criminal gangs, and reinvesting it in drug prevention programmes;
- ‘Mainstreaming’ police officers linking substance users to IRIS and formally tracking outcomes;
- Sustaining enforcement in respect of drug dealing in public places (Operation Encounter);
- Educational and awareness raising work with hotels and businesses to identify and prevent premises being used for dealing.

The Group had also led a response to consultation on the draft Drug & Alcohol Strategy and the comments made had been circulated with the agenda. Arising from discussion of the response was a proposal that the Group remit be widened to include alcohol and to have oversight of the Drug & Alcohol strategy for the CSP.

The meeting discussed the growing concern about issues relating to drug misuse, in particular visible drug dealing, and requested that there be more communication from the police (for example through groups such as the Safer Reading Forums) to provide the community with information on the actions being taken in response to the problem, and to help build community resilience.

### **AGREED:**

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the proposal for the Group to also cover alcohol misuse be endorsed.

### **3. CRIME RECORDING ASSESSMENT**

Emma Burroughs gave an update on an assessment by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) of the accuracy of crime recording in Thames Valley Police.

Emma reported that the assessment had issued an overall judgement of inadequate and found that approximately 35k crimes a year were potentially not being recorded properly by TVP, which equated to around 3k crimes a year in Reading. She outlined the actions that were being taken in response and gave examples of incidents that were dealt with appropriately but not necessarily recorded correctly.

The meeting noted that a lack of confidence in crime figures could possibly affect public perceptions, and might also make it more difficult to rely on the statistical data in carrying out the Community Safety strategic assessment. It was however acknowledged that this was mainly a process issue, and that the Assessment would rely as much on qualitative information as the crime statistics.

### **AGREED:**

That the update be noted.

### **4. CRIME PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Anthony Brain submitted the crime performance report as at the end of February 2018.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 26 APRIL 2018**

For all British Crime Survey Crimes there had been a small year-on-year increase of 2%, which was consistent with other CSPs in the most similar group. For burglary there had been a 14% year-on-year increase, and for violent crime a 10% year-on-year increase, which was consistent with the most similar group.

Anthony reported that there was concern at a decrease in the rate of outcomes, and the Chair suggested that this was reflected in public concern at an apparent lack of enforcement on some crime issues.

### **AGREED:**

**That the report be noted.**

## **5. YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN**

Vicky Rhodes and Giles Allchurch submitted a report setting out the Youth Justice Plan which detailed how local Youth Justice Services were provided, funded and operated. The Plan was a requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act and had to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board, the government body that oversaw Youth Justice, in order to receive funding for 2018/19.

Giles explained that the Plan identified a number of emerging themes: Trauma Informed Practice, Education Training and Employment, Relationship Aggression, Risky Behaviours and First Time Entrants. These were drawn from National Plans and research as well as local organisations and partners, and would be the priorities for 2018/19. In addition Looked After Children and those with Speech Communication and Language Needs had been identified as groups requiring particular attention. The Plan also included information on performance against national and local performance indicators and summarised opportunities and challenges for 2018/19.

The meeting noted that in Reading there had been an increase in first time entrants to the Criminal Justice System in 2015 and 2016, against the downward regional and national trend. Giles explained that there had been some correlation with school exclusions and missing episodes during this period, but that it was difficult to further analyse this retrospectively, and that the rate had subsequently declined over 2017 in line with the national trend. Overall the nature of first time offences was not becoming more serious, but in Reading there was a greater proportion of aggression-related offences when compared to other areas.

### **AGREED:**

**That the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 be noted and endorsed for submission to the Youth Justice Board.**

## **6. DELIVERY GROUP ACTION PLANS**

The Delivery Groups submitted their current actions plans, which set out progress against actions/tasks under the agreed priorities for each group.

### **a) Vulnerable Communities**

Anthony Brain submitted the Action Plan which set out priorities for Hate Crime, Preventing Extremism and Counter Terrorism. He reported that there was still

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 26 APRIL 2018

concern at the low rate of successful outcomes relating to Hate Crime, and that a Case Monitoring group were examining individual incidents to try and understand the reasons for this.

An annual conference on counter terrorism for the Town Centre Business community had recently taken place with 80 attendees.

### **b) Modern Day Slavery and Adult Exploitation**

Nicola Bell submitted the current Delivery Group Action Plan, which set out priorities under the themes of 'Pursue: Prosecuting and disrupting individuals and groups responsible for Modern Slavery/Exploitation', 'Prevent: Preventing people from engaging in Modern Slavery/Exploitation', 'Protect: Strengthening safeguards against Modern Slavery/Exploitation by protecting vulnerable people from exploitation and increasing awareness of and resilience against this crime' and 'Prepare: Reducing the harm caused by Modern Slavery/Exploitation through improved victim identification and enhanced support'.

It was noted that the action to improve Criminal Justice Process and achieve an increase in effective prosecutions and setting baselines was rated red. According to the Plan discussion was needed at OPCC to determine how to establish a Thames Valley-wide approach, and it was asked whether these discussions had begun.

### **c) Domestic Abuse**

Sarah Gee submitted the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2015-18: Action Plan. All actions were rated amber or green and there were no significant issues to report.

**AGREED: That the Delivery Group Action Plans be received.**

## **7. OPCC UPDATE**

Cath Marriott reported on the implementation of new victim support services contract, with the Victims First service now being provided in-house. There would be a public launch of the service in the summer. Cath explained that there were no eligibility criteria or time limit for use of the service, and outlined the process for getting consent to contact and the impact of GDPR on procedures.

**AGREED; That the update be noted.**

## **8. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

Anthony Brain noted that the current Community Safety Plan was in its final year, and that another Strategic Assessment had to be completed by March 2019. The meeting split into groups to carry out a workshop activity on initial scanning of issues for the assessment.

**AGREED: That the outputs of the workshop inform the development of the draft Strategic Assessment.**

## **9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING**

The meetings for 2018/19 would take place on:

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 26 APRIL 2018**

Thursday 20 September 2018

Thursday 15 November 2018

Thursday 31 January 2019

Thursday 25 April 2019

All meetings at 9.30am.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 10.30 am)